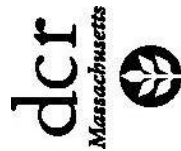


Park Information

- All parking lots have a \$2 fee payable at the yellow machine in the Visitor Center parking lot.
- Please look for signs noting the park closing time as it changes from month to month
- The trails are not suitable for an umbrella-type baby stroller: they have loose stones and sand.
- All dogs must be on a leash no more than 10 ft. long.



Borderland State Park
Department of Conservation and Recreation
259 Massapoag Avenue
N. Easton MA 02356 508-238-6566

Self-Guided Hikes with Children

Borderland State Park



Hikes for Tykes

Scamper to the Mansion

½ mile, about 30 minutes

- Start at the Visitor Center, get a drink of water.
- Turn south, walk down the dirt road along the left side of the picnic ground. Pass the hanging bird feeder. Pass the antique black fire hydrant.
- Explore the front of the Ames Mansion.
- Facing the Mansion, turn right and walk around behind the Mansion. Pass the big wooden doors of the mansion garage.
- Go left onto grassy back lawn of the Mansion. Find the bag-like oriole's nest in the big oak tree. Find the robin's nest in the ivy on the Mansion near the door.
- Continue around the Mansion. Find the stone arbor covered with wisteria. Find the fountain: a small waterfall and stone pool.
- Go up the stairs to the front of the Mansion.
- Return to the Visitor Center. Get another drink of water!



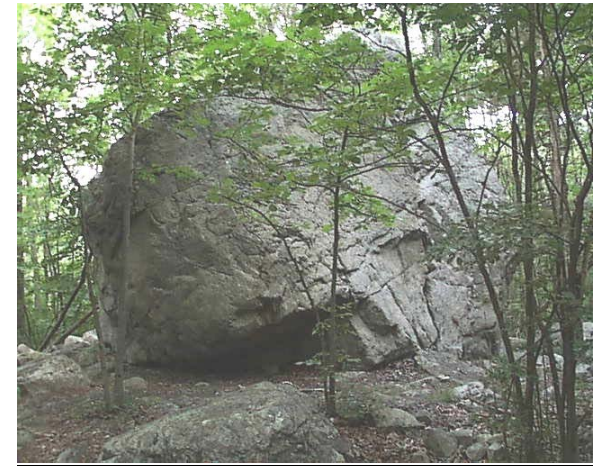
Dragonfly nymph

Ponding at the Lodge

½ mile, 30-60 minutes

Ponding – catching, identifying and releasing small pond critters - is fun for school-aged children.

- Start at the Visitor Center. Borrow a ponding kit from the Park Interpreter: net, pan and pond life handbook.
- Walk downhill on the Pond Walk behind the Visitor Center for about ¼ mile.
- Keep right at the fork in the path, continue to the granite bench at the pond edge.
- Take the path on the left. Walk to the stone lodge and the peninsula in front of it.
- Fill the pan about halfway with pond water.
- Using the ponding net, dredge up critters from the bottom of the pond. Carefully tip them into the pan of water for good viewing. Use the handbook to name what you catch. Release everything gently.
- Walk uphill on the path behind the Lodge, returning to the Visitor Center.
- Return the ponding kit to the Interpreter.



The Million-Pound Boulder

½ mile, about 30 minutes

The Ames Boulder is a granite erratic, deposited here about 11,000 years ago as the glacier melted, receded and dropped it. It weighs about 1,000,000 lbs.

NOTE: This trail is not suitable for baby strollers.

- Starting at the Visitor Center, walk south towards the Mansion.
- After you pass the picnic area and the bird feeder, look left across the grassy field to find the Boulder Trail.
- Follow the Boulder Trail into the woods. Be careful to stay on the trail – there is lots of poison-ivy on both sides!
- Keeping right on the trail, walk to the Ames Boulder.
- Return to the Visitor Center by backtracking.